

# KTMB hopes to see profits from 2012

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**KUALA LUMPUR:** KTM Berhad hopes to start making profits from 2012 onwards after its double-tracking works have been completed.

The national rail operator, which was corporatised in 1992, hopes to reduce its losses this year to RM100mil from the RM140mil suffered last year and RM180mil the year before, its managing director Mohd Salleh Abdullah told reporters at a press conference yesterday.

"We need some time before we can turn the company around," he said.

Once completed, the double-track line would be able to accommodate up to 250 train trips per day compared with about 25 per day with the present single track.

Earlier, Mohd Salleh, together

with KTMB chairman Tan Sri Thong Yaw Hong, launched a giant banner at its corporate headquarters in honour of Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad's 22-year leadership as Prime Minister.

"On behalf of the board of directors, senior management and all the staff of KTMB, we would like to record our deepest appreciation and gratitude to Dr Mahathir for contributing towards the development of the country, especially in transportation," Thong said.

"May he be blessed with happiness, long life and excellent health and we wish him all the best in his future endeavours," he added.

"We would like to pledge our support to his successor Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and we also wish him the best in bringing the country to greater heights."